Office of the United States Attorney Western District of Wisconsin (608) 264-5158 TTY (608) 264-5006

For Immediate Release

Contact Person

April 22, 2005

John W. Vaudreuil Assistant U.S. Attorney

27TH LAC COURTE OREILLES DEFENDANT SENTENCED TO PRISON

Madison, Wisconsin -- Stephen P. Sinnott, Acting United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Bryan K. Sam, Sr., DOB: 10/5/67, formerly of the Lac Courte Oreilles Reservation in Sawyer County, was sentenced today to 17½ years in federal prison without parole. This conviction is a result of the long-term drug investigation being conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Wisconsin Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation-Narcotics Bureau, and the Sawyer County Sheriff's Department into drug crimes on the Lac Courte Oreilles Reservation in Sawyer County.

In sentencing Sam, Sr. to the maximum sentence allowed under the federal sentencing guidelines, U.S. District Judge John C. Shabaz stated that the defendant's conduct left the Court "no choice but to provide the maximum sentence." Judge Shabaz noted that Sam, Sr. lured his son and 15-year-old nephew into the criminal activity and then supervised and encouraged them in drug dealing. Judge Shabaz stated that incarcerating Sam, Sr. for 17½ years might be expensive, but it was important "to think of all the lives that would be saved by putting Sam, Sr. away for 17½ years." In closing,

Judge Shabaz noted that the 17½ years sentence was necessary to protect the Lac Courte Oreilles community and to incapacitate Sam, Sr. for as long a period as the law allows.

Sam, Sr. is the is the 27th individual sentenced as the result of the investigation which began in June 2002. Jennifer LaMorie, his girlfriend and codefendant, will be sentenced on May 5, 2005.

Twenty-six other individuals have previously been sentenced:

Name and DOB	Crime of Conviction	Sentence Imposed
Bryan Sam, Jr., DOB: 12/17/83	Conspiracy to Distribute Crack Cocaine.	14 years and 2 months in prison.
Charles Gokey, DOB: 11/10/79	Conspiracy to Distribute Crack Cocaine	19 years and 7 months in prison.
Richard Saddler, DOB: 12/6/81	Conspiracy to Distribute Crack Cocaine	14 years and 2 months in prison.
Angie Billyboy, DOB: 11/12/80	Conspiracy to Distribute Crack Cocaine	10 years and 5 months in prison.
Faith Saddler, DOB: 7/17/59	Possessing Crack Cocaine	six months in prison.
Jerome Cross DOB: 10/17/56	Conspiracy to Distribute Crack Cocaine	12 years in prison.
Sasha Dennis DOB: 7/25/84	Distributing Crack Cocaine	6 years and 3 months in prison.
Valeka V. Kiutukcief DOB: 10/3/78	Distributing Crack Cocaine	2 years in prison.
Julian Martin DOB: 4/29/83	Distributing Cocaine	7 years in prison.
Timothy Stevens DOB: 10/31/74	Conspiracy to Distribute Cocaine	4 years and 9 months in prison.
Keith A. Stevens DOB: 4/25/73	Distributing Cocaine	12 years and 7 months in prison.

Name and DOB	Crime of Conviction	Sentence Imposed
Michael Andrlik DOB: 6/27/61	Distributing Cocaine	4 years and 9 months in prison.
Daniel J. Abeita DOB: 4/17/84	Distributing Crack Cocaine	4 years and 9 months in prison.
Anthony Gouge DOB: 10/16/80	Distributing Crack Cocaine	6 years and 6 months in prison.
Terry DeMarr DOB: 9/1/56	Distribution of Crack Cocaine	6 years and 8 months in prison.
Robert Mustache DOB: 11/27/74	Distribution of Crack Cocaine	13 years and 9 months in prison.
David Dennis DOB: 11/13/65	Distribution of Cocaine	7 years and 4 months in prison.
Miranda Barber DOB: 8/11/77	Distribution of Cocaine	6 months in prison.
Joseph Connors DOB: 8/22/64	Distribution of cocaine	13½ years in prison.
Quill R. Hawk DOB: 9/13/81	Distribution of cocaine	10 years and 1 month in prison.
Carlee Hamilton DOB: 7/4/72	Conspiring to distribute cocaine.	8 years in prison.
Chaska J. Carrillo DOB: 10/5/76	Distributing cocaine base.	12 years and 7 months in prison.
Steven W. Martinson DOB: 7/26/76	Possessing cocaine with the intent to distribute and possessing firearms.	6 years and 9 months in prison.
Andre Lasieur DOB: 5/3/76	Unlawfully possessing ammunition as a convicted felon	6 years and 8 months in prison.
Joseph Isham, Sr. DOB: 1/20/61	Possessing firearms as a felon and possessing a stolen firearm	5 years in prison.
Joseph Isham, Jr. DOB: 8/31/81	Possessing stolen firearms	4 years in prison.

Yvonne Dennis pleaded guilty on April 21 to a charge that she allowed her residence on the Reservation to be used by the Latin King gang for the manufacturing and selling of crack cocaine. Dennis will be sentenced on June 21, 2005, at 1:30 p.m. Finally, eleven members of the Latin King gang were indicted on March 22, 2005, and are scheduled for a September 12 trial. Prosecution of these cases has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney John W. Vaudreuil.

####